EXHIBIT 6

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                 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 2
                  MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
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                         TAMPA DIVISION
 4
   REBOTIX REPAIR LLC,
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                 Plaintiff,
 6
                                        ) Case No.
             vs.
                                        ) 8:20-cv-02274
 7
    INTUITIVE SURGICAL, INC.,
 8
                 Defendant.
 9
10
         VIDEO DEPOSITION OF PULLMAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL
11
12
         BY AND THROUGH ITS DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE
13
                        EDWARD W. HARRICH
14
                          MAY 24, 2021
15
            CONDUCTED REMOTELY VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
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22
23
   Reported by Cynthia J. Vega
24 RMR, RDR, CA CSR 6640, WA CSR 21001436, CCRR 95
25 Job No. 194419
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- 1 10:12 a.m.
- 2 My name is Manuel Garcia. I'm the legal
- 3 video specialist from TSG Reporting, Inc.
- 4 The court reporter is Cindy Vega in
- 5 association with TSG Reporting.
- 6 Counsel, please introduce yourselves.
- 7 MR. LYON: My name is Rick Lyon of Dovel &
- 8 Luner. I am counsel for the plaintiff, Rebotix
- 9 Repair.
- 10 MR. MENITOVE: Mike Menitove from Skadden
- 11 Arps on behalf of the defendant, Intuitive Surgical.
- 12 MR. ALMY: Griff Almy, Skadden Arps, also on
- 13 behalf of the defendant, Intuitive Surgical.
- 14 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Would the court reporter
- 15 please swear in the witness.
- 16 THE REPORTER: Yes. And, Mr. Rembert, can
- 17 you state your appearance, please.
- 18 MR. REMBERT: Yes. My name is Robert
- 19 Rembert, and I'm general counsel for Pullman Regional
- 20 Hospital.
- THE REPORTER: Thank you.
- 22
- EDWARD W. HARRICH,
- 24 Witness herein, being first duly sworn, testifies as
- 25 follows:

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EXAMINATION

- 2 BY MR. LYON:
- 3 Q. Good morning, sir.
- 4 A. Morning.
- 5 Q. Can you introduce yourself, state your name
- 6 and where you work?
- 7 A. Okay. My name is Edward Walker Harrich. I
- 8 work at Pullman Regional Hospital since 2006. I'm the
- 9 director of surgical services.
- 10 O. The director of what?
- 11 A. Surgical services.
- 12 Q. And what are your duties as the director of
- 13 surgical services?
- 14 A. I have a wide variety of duties, but I
- 15 oversee about 32 personnel, 22, 23 surgeons. I work
- 16 with the finances, the equipment that comes in, the
- 17 training of the staff, payroll. Just pretty much
- 18 overview of everything going on in the department.
- 19 I will work in the OR on the surgical cases a
- 20 little bit, but that's not my primary role. Primary
- 21 role is to staff the people --
- 22 Q. And you understand you're testifying on
- 23 behalf of Pullman Regional Hospital today?
- 24 A. That's correct.
- 25 (Reporter clarification.)

- 1 Q. Mr. Harrich, I believe you said you're
- 2 responsible for medical equipment; is that right?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. What does that mean?
- 5 A. That means any new equipment that we're
- 6 bringing into the hospital, I'll look at it, review
- 7 it, see if it is financially in line with our budget,
- 8 if it's a quality product.
- 9 I kind of -- I do the screening before the
- 10 reps come into the hospital. We get solicited by reps
- 11 on a daily basis, and if I let every one of them come
- 12 in, we'd get nothing done.
- So I'll meet with the rep, see what their
- 14 product is, see what their cost is. We'll get a
- 15 couple samples, give them a try. If we like it, if
- 16 there's a cost savings, physicians find it to be an
- 17 advantage, we'll go with it.
- The physicians will tell me about products
- 19 that they've seen at shows or other hospitals and
- 20 stuff, and so then I'll arrange the reps to come in
- 21 and give us a trial.
- Q. Sir, does Pullman Regional Hospital have any
- 23 da Vinci surgical robots?
- A. Yes, we have a da Vinci, an Si.
- 25 Q. "Si," that's the model number?

- 1 A. It's called the da Vinci Si. It's
- 2 streamlined integration, is what the "S" and the "i"
- 3 stand for.
- 4 Q. When did Pullman Regional acquire the
- 5 da Vinci Si model?
- 6 A. I believe we purchased it in 2011,
- 7 thereabouts.
- 8 Q. Since 2011, when your hospital purchased the
- 9 da Vinci machine, has it purchased any additional
- 10 da Vinci machines?
- 11 A. No, we have not.
- 12 Q. What surgeries does Pullman Regional perform
- 13 with the da Vinci robot?
- 14 A. We'll do urology, general surgery, and
- 15 OB-GYN. The OB-GYNs primarily use it for
- 16 hysterectomies, but the urologists will use it for
- 17 nephrectomies, partial nephrectomies, and
- 18 prostatectomies.
- 19 And the general surgeons typically use it for
- 20 lower cholecystectomies or inguinal hernia repairs.
- 21 Q. How many surgeons perform da Vinci surgeries
- 22 at your hospital?
- 23 A. Right now, we have six or -- six of them, I
- 24 believe. Seven. We have seven.
- 25 Q. Does the fact that your hospital has a

- 1 da Vinci surgical robot help your hospital attract top
- 2 surgeons?
- 3 A. Absolutely.
- 4 Q. Why is that?
- 5 A. Well, you can't get a urologist if you don't
- 6 have a robot. We were unsuccessful about -- for about
- 7 three years. We got the robot, and then we had
- 8 urologists coming out of med school or moving on from
- 9 their practices that were now interested in engaging
- 10 in conversation with us. So that's how we landed
- 11 Dr. Smith.
- 12 O. Who is Dr. Smith?
- 13 A. Dr. Smith is a urologist.
- 14 Dr. Ullrich was our urologist that left
- 15 because we didn't have plans of getting a robot.
- 16 Q. Your hospital lost a surgeon because you were
- 17 unable to acquire a robot?
- 18 A. This is correct.
- 19 O. Why is that?
- 20 A. Well, he wanted to do robotic prostates. Our
- 21 prostate volumes went from about 50 to 60 prostates a
- 22 year, somewhere in that ballpark range -- I'm going
- 23 back to 2011, 2010-ish -- we went down to 5 cases that
- 24 next year, because people were going to other places
- 25 that had a robot. So what we said is they're driving

- 1 right through Pullman to go to Seattle, Portland to
- 2 get robotic procedure.
- 3 Q. If your hospital no longer had a da Vinci
- 4 robot, would your hospital lose some surgeons?
- 5 MR. MENITOVE: Object to the form.
- 6 THE WITNESS: I don't --
- 7 BY MR. LYON:
- 8 Q. So I'll withdraw the question and I'll give
- 9 you some quides.
- 10 During the course of the deposition, counsel
- 11 may interpose an objection.
- 12 A. Okay.
- 13 Q. Pause, let them object. If you understand
- 14 the question, go ahead and answer the question. It's
- 15 preserving the record for down the road.
- 16 A. I see. Okay.
- 17 Q. So I'll reask the question.
- Does the fact that your hospital has a
- 19 da Vinci surgical robot help your hospital --
- 20 withdrawn.
- 21 If your hospital no longer had a da Vinci
- 22 robot, would your hospital lose some top surgeons?
- MR. MENITOVE: Objection. Calls for
- 24 speculation.
- THE WITNESS: Do I still answer it?

- 1 other than they have a chip on them that only allow
- 2 you ten uses. At the end of the tenth use, it becomes
- 3 a disposable. I was glad to see that we could stop
- 4 after nine uses --
- 5 (Reporter clarification.)
- 6 A. So I was pleased to see that we could use the
- 7 instruments for a longer duration and have them
- 8 reprogrammed with a cost savings.
- 9 Q. You stated that you believed EndoWrists had
- 10 additional lives on them before you had to dispose of
- 11 them when they reached their maximum use restrictions;
- 12 is that right?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. Why did you believe that EndoWrists had
- 15 additional lives on them?
- 16 A. Well, on the end of the tenth life, it wasn't
- 17 working any different than it had been on the first
- 18 life. There was no complaints by the physicians. If
- 19 there were any, we'd take the instrument out of
- 20 service or send it back in to Intuitive for repair if
- 21 it still had lives left on it.
- 22 So if it's a grasper, it's a grasper. Is it
- 23 grabbing the tissue like you think it should? As the
- 24 physician says, it's feeling that tactile touch. You
- 25 can't actually feel the touch, but on a console.

- 1 But it's grabbing the tissue. They're liking
- 2 what they're seeing. They're liking what they're
- 3 feeling. So the instrument can still continue to be
- 4 used.
- 5 Q. Is that how you determine whether a
- 6 traditional laparoscopic device should continue to be
- 7 used as well?
- 8 A. Yes, the functionality of it.
- 9 Q. Is your hospital aware of any other companies
- 10 other than Rebotix Repair that repairs and services
- 11 EndoWrists?
- 12 A. I'm not aware of anybody else.
- 13 Q. Is your hospital aware of any companies other
- 14 than Rebotix Repair that can reset the usage counter
- 15 on EndoWrists beyond the limit imposed by Intuitive?
- 16 A. I'm not aware of anybody else.
- 17 Q. Would your hospital have agreed to use
- 18 EndoWrists repaired by Rebotix if the repaired
- 19 EndoWrists were unsafe?
- A. No, never.
- 21 MR. MENITOVE: Object to the form.
- 22 BY MR. LYON:
- Q. Did you do any testing or trials of
- 24 Rebotix-repaired EndoWrists?
- 25 A. We did.

- 1 Q. What did you do to test or try out
- 2 Rebotix-repaired EndoWrists?
- 3 A. We had three or four samples that we were
- 4 given by Rebotix, and informed the physician that it
- 5 was a reprocessed robotic instrument for the cases,
- 6 made everybody in the room aware that it was a
- 7 reprocessed instrument, and gave it a whirl.
- 8 There were no complaints. Everybody said
- 9 they worked just fine. There was no difference than
- 10 the non-reprocessed instruments. So we did -- we made
- 11 some purchases. And then when we made our first
- 12 purchases -- you had to get down to one life left
- 13 before you could send them in. So once we got some
- 14 instruments and we were able to send them in, got them
- 15 back from Rebotix.
- 16 Myself and my assistant director, Steve
- 17 Cromer, the only two that knew that those were the
- 18 reprocessed instruments that came back in, we used
- 19 them in a case. I asked the first assist, the
- 20 surgeon, and the scrub tech in the room if there were
- 21 any issues, complications, or problems about the
- 22 instruments, and there were no issues. They --
- 23 actually, one of them on one of the cases says the
- 24 scissors seemed extremely sharp.
- So we didn't have any issues and we were

- 1 going to continue to proceed forward using them.
- Q. There is a lot there. I'm going to try to --
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. -- break down and unpackage that as well.
- When you tested out the EndoWrists, was it
- 6 during an actual surgery with a patient?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 O. In the -- withdrawn.
- 9 Were the surgeons who used the
- 10 Rebotix-repaired EndoWrists able to discern any
- 11 difference between those EndoWrists and EndoWrists
- 12 that had not been repaired or serviced by Rebotix?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 MR. MENITOVE: Objection. Foundation.
- 15 BY MR. LYON:
- 16 Q. Were the first assists able to discern any
- 17 differences between the Rebotix-repaired EndoWrists
- 18 and the EndoWrists that had not been repaired or
- 19 serviced by Rebotix?
- MR. MENITOVE: Same objection.
- 21 THE WITNESS: No.
- 22 BY MR. LYON:
- Q. Were the scrub assists able to discern any
- 24 difference between the Rebotix-repaired EndoWrists and
- 25 EndoWrists that had not been repaired or serviced by

- 1 Rebotix?
- 2 MR. MENITOVE: Same objection.
- THE WITNESS: No.
- 4 BY MR. LYON:
- 5 Q. Other than the first assists, the surgeons,
- 6 and the scrub assists, did anyone else test or
- 7 perceive the Rebotix-repaired EndoWrists in use?
- 8 MR. MENITOVE: Object to the form.
- 9 THE WITNESS: No.
- 10 BY MR. LYON:
- 11 Q. What is a first assist?
- 12 A. A first assist is the surgeon's assistant.
- 13 They stay at the patient's bedside the entire time
- 14 when the surgeon goes to the console. The first
- 15 assist will help guide the instruments in, use the
- 16 suction, an extra set of hands. They have their own
- 17 laparoscopic equipment.
- 18 O. What is a scrub assist?
- 19 A. Scrub assist is -- they will be responsible
- 20 for the instrumentations, loading the clips, or
- 21 handing the instruments off to the first assist and
- 22 load it in the da Vinci. The scrub may also load the
- 23 instrument themselves.
- Q. Did you personally interview the surgeons and
- 25 the technicians who were involved in the surgery --

- 1 withdrawn.
- 2 Did you personally interview the surgeons and
- 3 the technicians who were involved in the trial of the
- 4 Rebotix-repaired EndoWrists?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 O. What did you learn from those interviews?
- 7 A. That the instruments still worked just like
- 8 the nonrepaired ones. There was no difference.
- 9 Q. Does your hospital undertake any inspection
- 10 efforts of an EndoWrist before it's used in a surgery?
- 11 A. Absolutely.
- 12 Q. What process does your hospital undertake to
- 13 inspect an EndoWrist from Intuitive before it's used
- 14 in a surgery?
- 15 A. So the inspection process will start in
- 16 central sterile processing. There is multiple steps
- 17 on processing and packaging those instrumentations,
- 18 protecting the tips on them.
- 19 Once they're packaged, sent through sterile
- 20 processing, they come into the room. The scrub tech,
- 21 when they open the trays, will examine them on the
- 22 field, make sure that the jaws are open and close,
- 23 that the -- you know, everything is clean, that there
- 24 is no dried blood, that the ports are working.
- 25 And then the first assist will do that also.

- 1 Hospital consider Intuitive to be a monopolist?
- 2 MR. MENITOVE: Object to the form.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Yes. I don't -- because I
- 4 don't know of any other competition that they have.
- 5 BY MR. LYON:
- 6 Q. Back when you purchased your da Vinci
- 7 machine, if Intuitive had raised the price of the
- 8 da Vinci machine by 5 or 10 percent, would your
- 9 hospital still have purchased the da Vinci machine or
- 10 would it have looked to alternatives?
- 11 MR. MENITOVE: Objection. Calls for
- 12 speculation. Lacks foundation.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Yeah, so if you're talking
- 14 another 100- or 150,000, I believe we would have
- 15 continued to proceed to purchase the Intuitive robot.
- 16 BY MR. LYON:
- 17 Q. Currently, are you planning to purchase a new
- 18 da Vinci robot -- withdrawn.
- 19 If you are planning to purchase a new --
- 20 withdrawn.
- 21 Currently, with your plans to purchase a new
- 22 da Vinci robot, if Intuitive raised the price by 5 to
- 23 10 percent, would your hospital look to alternatives
- 24 or would it still purchase the da Vinci robot?
- 25 MR. MENITOVE: Object to the form.

Page 51 THE WITNESS: Well, I don't know who else we 1 can purchase from or even try out at this point. So, yes, we would purchase the Intuitive robot. It may be 3 delayed, there may have to be additional fundraising, 4 but that would be our course. 5 6 BY MR. LYON: 7 If you plan to purchase a new da Vinci robot at its quoted price and Intuitive raised the price by 8 9 5 to 10 percent, would your hospital look to perform 10 more traditional, nonrobotic surgeries instead of purchasing a da Vinci robot? 11 12 MR. MENITOVE: Object to the form. 13 THE WITNESS: No. I don't think that would play a factor. And, like I said, that would be a 14 15 physician and a patient's choice. The hospital stays out of those conversations. 16 BY MR. LYON: 17 And the hospital needs -- withdrawn. 18 Q. 19 Does the hospital need a da Vinci robot in order to service the patients' and the surgeons' 20 21 demands? 22 Α. Yes. 23 Object to the form. MR. MENITOVE: 24 THE WITNESS: Yes.

(Reporter clarification.)

25

- 1 BY MR. LYON:
- Q. Are your surgeons trained to use the da Vinci
- 3 surgical robot?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. How much training do surgeons undergo before
- 6 they are able to use the da Vinci surgical robot?
- 7 A. So they do --
- 8 MR. MENITOVE: Object to the form.
- 9 THE WITNESS: They do three to five cases
- 10 with a preceptor. Once the preceptor signs off on
- 11 them, they're free to go on their own.
- 12 After they hit their 20-case mark, they
- 13 get -- they start to feel -- 15 to 20, they start to
- 14 feel the tactile touch. And then at the 20-case mark,
- 15 Intuitive will list them as a da Vinci or Intuitive or
- 16 robotic surgeon.
- 17 BY MR. LYON:
- 18 Q. What is a preceptor?
- 19 A. A preceptor is somebody who is skilled in
- 20 using the robot. So let's just take hysterectomies.
- 21 So a robotically trained hysterectomy surgeon will go
- 22 into our nonrobotically trained, has done laparoscopic
- 23 and open hysterectomies, but will be there when they
- 24 do their first robotic cases.
- 25 And so even though we have done -- we'll do

- 1 BY MR. LYON:
- Q. For example, there is no reason your hospital
- 3 would only use Rebotix for a subset of EndoWrist types
- 4 or for limited volumes of EndoWrists; is that right?
- 5 MR. MENITOVE: Object to the form.
- 6 BY MR. LYON:
- 7 Q. I'm sorry?
- 8 A. We would use the Rebotix for the extended
- 9 life of the EndoWrist.
- 10 Q. Is there any reason other than Intuitive's
- 11 prohibition on you doing so that you wouldn't use
- 12 Rebotix's repair services on all of your EndoWrists?
- 13 A. All of them that are certified to be
- 14 reprocessed would be.
- 15 Q. What do you mean?
- 16 A. Providing that you have to -- you can't use
- 17 the last use, there has to -- you can use nine lives.
- 18 And so a couple times we used them on the tenth. And
- 19 so the robot -- so that arm was disposed of
- 20 afterwards. So it would be a staff error.
- 21 Q. One additional use -- is one -- withdrawn.
- Is one additional use required in order for
- 23 Rebotix to perform the repair and reset the usage
- 24 counter?
- 25 A. That's what I was informed and understood.

- 1 Q. In those instances where you used all of the
- 2 lives and were unable to use Rebotix's services, was
- 3 that an error?
- 4 A. Once we started, yeah. Once we were trying
- 5 to save them. So, yes, that would be an error.
- 6 O. If it weren't for Intuitive's contractual
- 7 limitations, would your hospital use Rebotix's
- 8 services to the full extent that Rebotix was willing
- 9 to provide them?
- 10 A. Yes.
- MR. MENITOVE: Object to the form.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 13 BY MR. LYON:
- 14 Q. Do your surgeons have any preference for or
- 15 against using Rebotix-repaired EndoWrists?
- 16 A. They --
- 17 MR. MENITOVE: Objection. Foundation. Calls
- 18 for speculation.
- 19 THE WITNESS: They didn't have any concerns
- 20 at the time. We didn't get to go long enough to get a
- 21 full run of it, full trial.
- 22 BY MR. LYON:
- 23 Q. Have patients stated any preference for or
- 24 against -- withdrawn.
- Do your patients have any preference for or

- 1 against using repaired EndoWrists?
- 2 MR. MENITOVE: Objection. Calls for
- 3 speculation. Lacks foundation.
- 4 THE WITNESS: The patients really would not
- 5 have a say in on that. I have not heard -- no.
- 6 BY MR. LYON:
- 7 Q. Are you aware of any preference from insurers
- 8 or third-party payors for or against using repaired
- 9 EndoWrists?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. Does the amount of money your hospital
- 12 receives for a surgical procedure depend on whether a
- 13 repaired EndoWrist is used?
- 14 A. No, there is -- no.
- 15 Q. Does reducing the costs of EndoWrists by
- 16 using the Rebotix Repair service improve the
- 17 hospital's profitability associated with procedures
- 18 that used the da Vinci system?
- 19 A. Yes.
- MR. MENITOVE: Object to the form.
- 21 MR. LYON: I placed a new document into the
- 22 chat feature. Does everyone have access to that?
- MR. ALMY: I don't, but I do have access to
- 24 the TSG folder. So if you can just tell me which one
- 25 it is, I can pull it up.

- 1 that number.
- 2 O. And the chart indicates four as the average
- 3 number of instruments per surgery. Is that a number
- 4 you provided to Mr. Boyette?
- 5 A. That would have been a number. We could go
- 6 up to six or seven in some cases and three in others,
- 7 but that would have been an average.
- 8 Q. Your chart indicates that the average cost
- 9 per instrument serviced by Rebotix is 1,332. Do you
- 10 see that?
- 11 A. I do.
- 12 Q. And the average cost per instrument from
- 13 Intuitive is indicated as 2,000. Do you see that?
- 14 A. I do.
- 15 Q. Are those numbers that Mr. -- withdrawn.
- Were those numbers generally accurate as of
- 17 the time two years ago when this chart was created?
- 18 A. Yeah. They were -- they were just kind of a
- 19 rounded number. The average robotic instrument we
- 20 paid for is -- from Intuitive is 2,000, and then the
- 21 Rebotix, based off of the numbers we gave them at the
- 22 time, is where we came up with the 1,332.
- Q. And the figure \$62,400 as the total annual
- 24 savings, do you see that?
- 25 A. I do.

- 1 Q. Is that your understanding of how much using
- 2 the Rebotix services would save your hospital in a
- 3 given year, based on the numbers from two years ago?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. At some point your hospital stopped using
- 6 Rebotix Repair services; is that right?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Why did your hospital stop using Rebotix
- 9 Repair services?
- 10 A. Well, we were informed that our preventive
- 11 maintenance contract, that we were in violation of it.
- 12 And so we read through the contract, saw that it did
- 13 say that if we used an outside vendor for
- 14 instrumentation, that the preventive maintenance
- 15 contract could and, after talking with Intuitive,
- 16 would be potentially canceled, so we quit using them.
- 17 MR. LYON: I'm going to mark as Exhibit 4 an
- 18 email dated August 15, 2019, from Jason Snyder to Ed
- 19 Harrich.
- 20 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 4 was marked for
- 21 identification.)
- 22 BY MR. LYON:
- Q. And let me know when you're able to pull that
- 24 up.
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Do you recognize this document?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. What is it?
- 4 A. It's a letter from Jason Snyder to myself.
- 5 O. Was the --
- 6 MR. MENITOVE: Sorry. Just to interject --
- 7 oh, I was going to ask -- I think I have this printed
- 8 out, so I was going to ask for a Bates number, but I
- 9 see you also put it in the chat, so I can open it
- 10 there too. Sorry to interrupt.
- 11 MR. LYON: Now do you see it? I'm sorry.
- MR. MENITOVE: No, no. I got it. Go ahead.
- 13 Sorry.
- 14 BY MR. LYON:
- 15 Q. Was the August 15th email from Jason Snyder
- 16 the first time that Intuitive told your hospital to
- 17 stop using Rebotix Repair's services?
- MR. MENITOVE: Object to the form.
- 19 THE WITNESS: This was the first time it was
- 20 in writing. Jason and I might have had a
- 21 conversation. I think I told him that we were
- 22 looking -- I'd had the conversation with Rebotix a
- 23 week or two weeks or some time period ahead of time.
- 24 But this was the first time in writing.
- 25 ///

- 1 read the subpoenas. I was just told what I was
- 2 supposed to get off of the subpoenas. They weren't
- 3 addressed to me individually.
- 4 Q. So feel free to take a moment to read these
- 5 topics. And then my question for you is going to be:
- 6 Do you feel prepared to speak on behalf of Pullman
- 7 about each of these topics here today?
- 8 A. Okay.
- 9 Okay. I've read through these. I feel fine
- 10 to speak on behalf of the hospital on these topics.
- 11 Q. Okay. Great. So we talked a little bit
- 12 today about Pullman's acquisition of the da Vinci Si
- 13 back in 2011, and I just want to circle back quickly
- 14 and ask a few additional questions about that topic.
- 15 A. Okay.
- 16 Q. So you talked about some of the product
- 17 advantages that you perceived as rationales for
- 18 Pullman to acquire the Si back in 2011.
- 19 And I wanted to ask: Were there any other
- 20 alternatives to purchasing the Xi that Pullman
- 21 considered back in 2011?
- 22 A. No, there were no other alternatives.
- Q. And by that, I mean, you know, not only other
- 24 forms of robotic-assisted surgery. Was there any
- 25 discussion about performing more laparoscopic surgery

- 1 instead of Pullman acquiring the da Vinci Si?
- 2 A. The conversations at that time were we were
- 3 losing all our prostate business because of the robot,
- 4 and the urologist, Dr. John Keizur, saying that "If
- 5 we're going to keep doing prostates, we have to get
- 6 the da Vinci robot." And so that -- that was our
- 7 goal. That was our conversation. There was no
- 8 additional conversations about other laparoscopic
- 9 procedures.
- 10 Q. Is it fair to say that the prostate surgery
- 11 was the driver in terms of motivating Pullman to
- 12 acquire the da Vinci Si in 2011?
- 13 A. That, and we needed the robot to help land
- 14 urology-trained surgeons. The ones coming out of
- 15 school that we talked to, as soon as we said we didn't
- 16 have a robot, the conversation was over and they moved
- 17 on.
- 18 Q. And were there any other types of surgeries
- 19 that Pullman was considering as a rationale for
- 20 acquiring the da Vinci Si in 2011?
- 21 A. No. There was a lot of advertisement at the
- 22 time about the advantages of doing a lap choley with
- 23 the robot. Our docs are very laparoscopic proficient
- 24 at the time. They weren't going to save any time.
- 25 They had very little interest.

- 1 So our main, main focus was landing a second
- 2 urologist. We knew we were going to have an extremely
- 3 difficult time or we were going to get an old-school
- 4 doctor, someone at the end of their career. If we
- 5 didn't get a robot, that's what we were going to be
- 6 stuck with, doing a little bit of a disservice to our
- 7 community. So that's where it went to get a
- 8 urologist.
- 9 Q. Back in 2011, did Pullman perform any kind of
- 10 financial analysis about the merits of acquiring the
- 11 da Vinci Si?
- 12 A. That would be a question I'd have to have you
- 13 talk to Steve Febus, our CFO, about or Scott Adams. I
- 14 know we had financial discussions about it, what the
- 15 volumes would look like, would we make our money back
- 16 up, would it be used by any other specialties. And
- 17 those were all just question marks.
- 18 Basically, those were kind of even off the
- 19 table. We had to get one to get another urologist,
- 20 and that was our biggest focus. Regardless of
- 21 spending the 1.5 million or taking a lease on it or
- 22 how we paid for it, we just needed to use it to get
- 23 our urologist. We'd just lost Dr. Ullrich, who went
- 24 to The Dalles, Oregon, because we didn't have plans of
- 25 getting a robot. Once he left, we couldn't replace

- 1 him.
- 2 Q. And have you done any analysis since to see
- 3 whether, I think as you put it, you made your money
- 4 back on the da Vinci Si?
- 5 A. Well, we made our money back -- when I talked
- 6 about the endometriosis lesions, when we talked about
- 7 removing the bowel cancer in the lower
- 8 cholecystectomies, we made it back right then and
- 9 there.
- 10 Pullman Regional is not everything is about
- 11 making money. We make the money to try to keep us
- 12 afloat, but it's patient satisfaction, doing the right
- 13 thing for our customers and our physicians. So that's
- 14 not the underlying -- underlying reason why we're
- 15 doing it.
- 16 Q. Back in 2011, did you have any -- strike
- 17 that.
- 18 Back in 2011, did Pullman have any
- 19 negotiations with Intuitive about the price or other
- 20 terms of sale for that da Vinci Si?
- 21 A. Yes. There was discussions on the price, did
- 22 we lease it or pay half or what. You know, we have
- 23 those full negotiation conversations that you always
- 24 have. Can we get an extra year of preventive
- 25 maintenance? Can we have you bring in the robot?

1	Page 194 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
2	I, Cynthia J. Vega, a Certified Shorthand
3	Reporter for the State of California, do hereby
4	certify:
5	That the witness in the foregoing remote
6	deposition was by me duly sworn remotely; that the
7	remote deposition was then taken before me at the time
8	and place herein set forth; that the testimony and
9	proceedings were reported by me stenographically and
10	were transcribed through computerized transcription
11	under my direction; and the foregoing is a true and
12	correct record of the testimony and proceedings taken
13	at that time.
14	I further certify that I am not of counsel or
15	attorney for either or any of the parties in the
16	foregoing proceeding and caption named or in any way
17	interested in the outcome of the cause in said
18	caption.
19	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name
20	this 25th day of May, 2021.
21	Reading and Signing was not requested.
22	Cynthia Vega
23	<u> </u>
24	Cynthia J. Vega
25	CA CSR 6640, WA CSR 21001436